

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #78-21 Building Date: 1887
Building Name: Old Melwood School
Location: 11209 Old Marlboro, Pike, Upper Maryland, Maryland

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The old Melwood School is a one story frame gable roof structure of irregular plan, due to additions over the years. It fronts closely on Marlboro Pike. The main block, originally the schoolhouse, is a one-and-one-half story structure of approximately two-by-one bays with a standing seam metal gable roof. There is a brick chimney centered at the gable ridge, and the building rests on a brick foundation. Both main block and additions are covered by aluminum siding and there is a boxed aluminum cornice. The school was originally sided with German siding. Entrance is on the east side through the gable end of a one story addition. Windows are new aluminum 1/1 sash. The entrance is sheltered by a one bay gable roof porch. The addition is set on a high cement block foundation and has a standing seam metal roof. The south facade of the main block is obscured by a two bay, one story shed roof addition. The north facade, facing Marlboro Pike, is covered by a one-by-one bay one story gable roof addition. The west facade is two bays, the brick foundation of the main block visible on this facade. The four corners of the school's original one-half acre lot are marked by four large trees, two east and two west of the structure. The interior of the school has been altered and there is no evidence of its original use. The dining and kitchen area comprise the original school building. A ca. 1922 hygiene book was found within the walls during renovation. Two ink bottles were found while excavating a foundation for an addition.

Significance:

The old Melwood School is significant for its vernacular architecture and for its construction and use as a one room school from 1887 through 1933. The Board of School Commissioners purchased a lot from William J. Latimer in 1887 for a school. A simple frame building on a brick foundation, it measured approximately 24-by-32-feet, and cost \$600. Charles Clagett, John A. Frasier and William J. Latimer were appointed trustees. It served as a one room elementary school from 1887 until it was sold in 1933 to a private property owner. The property was held by one owner through 1958 and converted into a single-family home. Presently the old school has additions to all facades, and there is no evidence on the interior of its original use. The original block is visible from the northwest corner of the building. Although obscured by additions and aluminum siding, the brick foundation, standing-seam metal roof and greater height of the main block make it distinguishable as a separate, older structure. It is a landmark for residents in the community whose family members attended the school.

Acreage: 1,900 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. 78-21

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Melwood School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 11209 Old Marlboro Pike

not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro

vicinity of

congressional district 5

state Md.

county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>X</u> district	<u>public</u>	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>agriculture</u>
<u>building(s)</u>	<u>X</u> private	<u>unoccupied</u>	<u>commercial</u>
<u>structure</u>	<u>both</u>	<u>work in progress</u>	<u>educational</u>
<u>site</u>	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>entertainment</u>
<u>object</u>	<u>in process</u>	<u>yes: restricted</u>	<u>government</u>
	<u>being considered</u>	<u>yes: unrestricted</u>	<u>industrial</u>
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u>military</u>
			<u>museum</u>
			<u>park</u>
			<u>X</u> private residence
			<u>religious</u>
			<u>scientific</u>
			<u>transportation</u>
			<u>other:</u>

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Linda and George Reigle

street & number 11209 Old Marlboro Pike

telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro

state and zip code Md. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

liber 4480

street & number Main Street

folio 984

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title NA

date

 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, Room 4010/CAB

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Md.

7. Description

Survey No. 78-21

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The old Melwood School is a one story frame gable roof structure of irregular plan, due to additions over the years to convert it to use as a private residence. The building is situated on a town lot and fronts closely on Marlboro Pike.

The main block, originally the schoolhouse, is a one-and-one-half story structure of approximately two-by-one bays with a standing seam metal gable roof. The gable ends face north and south. There is a brick chimney centered at the gable ridge, and the building rests on a brick foundation.

Both main block and additions are covered by aluminum siding and there is a boxed aluminum cornice throughout. The school was originally sided with German siding. Entrance to the structure is on the east side of the main block, through the three bay gable end of a three-by-one bays one story addition. Entrance is in the center bay, through a modern door which is asymmetrically placed south of the addition's gable ridge. Windows are new aluminum 1/1 double-hung-sash. The entrance is sheltered by a one bay gable roof entrance porch set high on cement block piers, reached by a flight of stairs. The addition is set on a high cement block foundation and has a standing seam metal roof.

The south facade of the main block is obscured by a two bay, one story shed roof lean-to addition. The north facade, facing Marlboro Pike, is covered by a one-by-one bay one story gable roof addition on a high cement block foundation, having an asphalt shingle roof. The west facade is two bays, a 1/1 aluminum window on the main block and a one-by-one bay shed roof extension of the kitchen on the southwest corner of the facade. The brick foundation of the main block is visible on this facade.

The four corners of the school's original one-half acre lot are marked by four mature hardwood trees, two east and two west of the structure. There is a cement block garage to the east.

The interior of the old Melwood School has been altered for use as a residence. There is no evidence of its original use. The dining and kitchen area comprise the original school building. A ca. 1922 hygiene book was found within the walls during renovation. Two ink bottles were found while excavating a foundation for an addition.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG-78-21

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

Specific dates 1887 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The old Melwood School is significant for its vernacular architecture and for its construction and use as a one room school from 1887 through 1933.

The Prince George's County Board of School Commissioners purchased a lot on Marlboro Pike from William J. Latimer in 1887 for the construction of a school. The building was probably constructed soon after that date. A simple rectangular frame building on a brick foundation, it measured approximately 24-by-32-feet, and cost \$600 to build. Charles Clagett, John A. Frasier and William J. Latimer were appointed trustees to oversee the school's construction.¹

Melwood school served as a one room elementary school from 1887 until, as part of a general consolidation of schools during the early twentieth century, the school was sold in 1933 to a private property owner.² The property was held by one owner through 1958 and was converted, through additions, into a single-family home.³

Presently the old school has additions to all facades, and there is no evidence on the interior of the building's original use. The original main block is most visible from the northwest corner of the building. Although it has been obscured by additions and covered with aluminum siding, the brick foundation, standing-seam metal roof and greater height of the main block make it distinguishable as a separate, older structure. It is a landmark for residents in the community whose family members attended the school.

Notes

¹ Journal of Proceedings, Board of Education, Prince George's County, 1865-1903, pg. 239.

² Land Records of Prince George's County, 391:112.

³ Ibid. 2188:274.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. ^{PS} 78-21

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1900 Sq. feetMap 100 C-2 parcel 2Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro E

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate August 1986street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 952-3520city or town Upper Marlborostate Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Chain of Title

Old Melwood School
P.G. #78-21

4480:984 29 Apr 1975 Deed	Raymond and Evelyn Hardesty to George and Linda Reigle, 8,200 square feet, same as 2194:56.
2194:56 25 March 1958 Deed	Francis and Mary Curtin to Raymond and Evelyn Hardesty, northeast corner of Lot #1, Melwood Park Subdivision, 8,200 square feet.
2188:274 4 March 1958 Deed	Aubrey Ritchie and Bertha Ritchie to Mary Curtin and Francis Curtin, 58/100 of an acre, plat by Millard Thorne. Same as 1519:128, 1952.
1519:128 22 July 1952 Deed	Joan M. Coleman and Richard A. Coleman to Aubrey T. Ritchie and Bertha B. Ritchie. For \$10 grantors convey the Melwood school lot, 58/100 acre. Same deeded to Colemans and recorded prior hereto.
1519:126 22 July 1952 Deed	Aubrey T. Ritchie to Joan M. and Richard A. Coleman. For \$10.00 grantors convey Melwood School lot. Same decribed in deed from Board of Education to Ritchie, 391:112.
391:112 6 Jan 1933 Deed	Board of Education of Prince George's County to Aubrey T. Ritchie. For \$652 grantor conveys the Melwood school lot, 58/100 of an acre. A part of property owned by William J. Latimer, purchased by School Board.

5278/556
84.70A
P.21

R-A

ROBERT W.
AMMANN
2871/392
46.88A.
P.51

ABRAHAM M. KAUFMAN
2389-14
20.91 A.
P.1

R-R

MELLWOOD PARK
REC. CENTER

8420
PAR. 'A'

ROBLEE ACRES

3471

3771

R-S

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE
SUITLAND LODGE 1856
5087/739
24.74 A
P.18

78-21

PG. PAR. 'A' P.4
8514

MELLWOOD
PARK

0870

PAUL D. HALWICK
5821/585
4.69 A.

P.56

P.54

P.52

P/O P.23

BEANES

WILLIAM

FEDERAL
SPRINGS
ESTATES

R-A

PETER P. POTERA, ETAL
5354/145
43.34 A.
P.26

2.28A
P.25

118031

FEDERAL COURT

4.97
P/O P.3

RE RCO.
2957-61
3.46 A.
P.36



P.G.#78-21

Old Mellwood School, Prince George's County

Marina King

February 1986

East

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD _



P.G.#78-21

Old Mellwood School, Prince George's County
Marina King
February 1986
South
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#78-21

Old Mellwood School, Prince George's County
Marina King

February 1986

West

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD